

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference IGT1P181X1WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION		see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/US2006/005677	International filing date (day/month/year) 15/02/2006	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 22/02/2005	
Applicant IGT			

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 3 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of:

☒ the international application in the language in which it was filed
☐ a translation of the international application into _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b))

- b. ☐ With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box No. II)

3. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (see Box No. III)

4. With regard to the title,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant
☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant
☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority

6. With regard to the drawings,

- a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 3h

☒ as suggested by the applicant
☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure
☐ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention

- b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract

II INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2006/005677

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. G07F17/32

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
G07F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2002/142825 A1 (LARK DAVID R ET AL) 3 October 2002 (2002-10-03) the whole document	1-47
X	US 2002/098888 A1 (ROWE RICHARD E ET AL) 25 July 2002 (2002-07-25) the whole document	1-47

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

18 July 2006

Date of mailing of the international search report

26/07/2006

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
European Patent Office: P. B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel: (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx: 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Van Dop, E

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2006/005677

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2002142825	A1	03-10-2002	US	2002142846 A1	03-10-2002
US 2002098888	A1	25-07-2002	AU	4990101 A	23-10-2001
			CA	2405166 A1	18-10-2001
			EP	1268022 A2	02-01-2003
			WO	0176710 A2	18-10-2001
			US	2002103027 A1	01-08-2002
			US	6682421 B1	27-01-2004
			US	2001044337 A1	22-11-2001
			ZA	200207989 A	12-05-2003

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

see form PCT/ISA/220

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
see form PCT/ISA/220

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.
PCT/US2006/005677

International filing date (day/month/year)
15.02.2006

Priority date (day/month/year)
22.02.2005

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
INV. G07F17/32

Applicant
IGT

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA:



European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaag 2
NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas
Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl
Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016

Date of completion of
this opinion

see form
PCT/ISA/210

Authorized Officer

Van Dop, E

Telephone No. +31 70 340-4504



**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/US2006/005677

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - ☒ the international application in the language in which it was filed
 - ☐ a translation of the international application into , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1 (b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material:
 - ☐ a sequence listing
 - ☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material:
 - ☐ on paper
 - ☐ in electronic form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing:
 - ☐ contained in the international application as filed.
 - ☐ filed together with the international application in electronic form.
 - ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/US2006/005677

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43b/s.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-47
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-47
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-47
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

Re Item V.

- 1 Reference is made to the following documents:

D1 : US 2002/142825 A1 (LARK DAVID R ET AL) 3 October 2002 (2002-10-03)

- 2 The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claims 1 and 29 does not involve an inventive step in the sense of Article 33(3) PCT, for the following reasons:

Document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document) a gaming machine comprising a master gaming controller that is designed or configured to generate and to control a game of chance on the gaming machine (cf. claim 48); an input mechanism under control of the master gaming controller for receiving cash or an indicia of credit for making wagers on an outcome of the game of chance (cf. paragraph 112); an output mechanism under control of the master gaming controller for outputting the cash or the indicia of credit wherein the indicia of credit is redeemable for cash (cf. paragraph 116); a memory for storing software instructions (cf. figure 4); and a first display for displaying a game service interface (cf. figures 1a and 1b). Document D1 also discloses a method of providing a game of chance on such a gaming machine.

The subject-matter of claims 1 and 29 therefore differs from this known gaming machine in that the software comprises instructions for generating and displaying a jackpot interface, wherein the jackpot interface is for displaying one or more jackpots selected by a player.

The additional subject-matter of the application with respect to prior art document D1 does not appear to provide a solution to a technical problem. In fact, the problem which is apparently addressed appears to require a solution with respect to the definition of the rules for playing a game, rather than a technical solution. The implementation of this solution may include the use of generic technical features, however these do not interact to solve any overall technical problem but merely serve their well known functions. Consequently, the person skilled in the art, with general

knowledge of the technical field and normal access to examples and textbooks, would apply the proposed game rules as described in the present application and defined in its claims without the use of inventive skill to arrive at the desired result.

It is further noted, that the selection of a jackpot by a player is as such a known game rule (cf. document D1: paragraph 59).

- 3 Dependent claims 2-28, 30-47 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of inventive step (Article 33(2) and (3) PCT).